

Important Information about Technology Systems

General Licensing Requirements

Technology circuit and system work is required to be performed by IRS W2-type employees of companies licensed as technology system contractors or electrical contractors by the Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry, or when the work is only performed on an employer's premises, by employees of employers that have registered their responsible licensed individual with the Department.

Technology circuits and systems as defined in Minnesota Statutes 326B.31

Subd. 29. Technology circuits or systems. Technology circuits or systems means class 2 or class 3 circuits or systems for, but not limited to, remote control, signaling, control, alarm, and audio signal, including associated components as covered by National Electrical Code, articles 640, 645, 725, 760, 770, and 780 and which are isolated from circuits or systems other than class 2 or class 3 by a demarcation and are not process control circuits or systems; antenna and communication circuits or systems as covered by chapter 8 of the National Electrical Code; and circuitry and equipment for indoor lighting and outdoor landscape lighting systems that are supplied by the secondary circuit of an isolating power supply operating at 30 volts or less as covered by National Electrical Code, article 411. The planning, laying out, installing, altering, and repairing of technology circuits or systems must be performed in accordance with the applicable requirements of the National Electrical Code pursuant to section 326.243.

Power limited technician is defined per Minnesota Statutes 326B.31

Subd. 25. Power limited technician. The term power limited technician means a person having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to install, alter, repair, plan, lay out, and supervise the installing, altering, and repairing of electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment for technology circuits or systems who is licensed as such by the board of electricity.

Contractor Licensing Requirements per Minnesota Statutes 326B.33

Subd. 17 Employment of power limited technician. Each technology system contractor must designate a responsible power limited technician who shall be responsible for the performance of all electrical work in accordance with the requirements of sections 326B.31 to 326B.399 or any rule or order adopted or issued under these sections.

(b) When a contractor's license is held by an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation and the individual, proprietor, one of the partners, one of the members, or an officer of the corporation, respectively, is not the responsible master electrician or power limited technician, all requests for inspection shall be signed by the responsible master electrician, satellite system installer, or power limited technician. If the contractor is an individual or a sole proprietorship, the responsible licensed individual must be the individual, proprietor, or managing employee. If the contractor is a partnership, the responsible licensed individual must be a general partner or managing employee. If the licensed contractor is a limited liability company, the responsible licensed individual must be a chief manager or managing employee. If the contractor is a corporation, the responsible licensed individual must be an officer or managing employee. If the responsible licensed individual is a managing employee, the responsible licensed individual must be actively engaged in performing electrical work on behalf of the contractor, and cannot be employed in any capacity as an electrician, installer, or technician by any other contractor or employer designated in subdivision 21. An individual may be the responsible licensed individual for only one contractor or employer.

(c) All applications and renewals for contractor licenses shall include a verified statement that the applicant or licensee has complied with this subdivision.

Registration of Unlicensed individuals per Minnesota Statutes 326B.33

Subd. 12. Unlicensed individuals. (a) An unlicensed individual means an individual who has not been licensed by the department to perform specific electrical work. An unlicensed individual shall not perform electrical work required to be performed by a licensed individual unless the individual has first registered with the department as an unlicensed individual. Thereafter, an unlicensed individual shall not perform electrical work required to be performed by a licensed individual unless the work is performed under the direct supervision of an individual actually licensed to perform such work.

The licensed individual and unlicensed individual must be employed by the same employer. Licensed individuals shall not permit unlicensed individuals to perform electrical work except under the direct supervision of an individual actually licensed to perform such work.

Unlicensed individuals shall not supervise the performance of electrical work or make assignments of electrical work to unlicensed individuals. Except for technology circuits or systems work, licensed individuals shall supervise no more than two unlicensed individuals. For technology circuits or systems work, licensed individuals shall supervise no more than three unlicensed individuals.

Acceptable Experience Requirements for Applicants

In general, license applicant experience is only acceptable for work performed as an employee of a licensed contractor or registered employer.

An applicant for a power limited technician's license shall

- (1) be a graduate of a four-year electrical course offered by an accredited college or university;
- or
- (2) have had at least 36 months' experience, acceptable to the Department, in planning for, laying out, supervising, installing, altering, and repairing wiring, apparatus, or equipment for power limited systems,

Continuing Education Requirement

Power-limited technicians must attain 16 hours of approved continuing education every 2-year renewal period. A minimum of 4 hours must be from the National Electrical Code and up to 12 hours of education may be on the Minnesota Electrical Act or related technical topics.

Registered unlicensed individuals must attain 2-hours of approved continuing education every 1-year renewal period. All education must be on the National Electrical Code.